



# • INFO memo - July 23, 2004

City of Broken Arrow  
P.O. Box 610  
Broken Arrow, OK 74013  
[www.brokenarrowok.gov](http://www.brokenarrowok.gov)

Wayne Bishop, Communications Coordinator  
Phone: 259-8277 Fax: 259-8233

## **Neighborhood Associations Urged to Register**

Broken Arrow Chief of Police Todd Wuestewald and his officers will tell you from experience that neighborhoods where neighbors watch out and stand up for each other are safer neighborhoods.

The concept of "community policing" in Broken Arrow has been a key factor in making this a safer city in which to live, Wuestewald points out. On Aug. 20 and 21 in Oklahoma City, the Council of Neighborhoods will hold its "Oklahoma Neighborhood Conference 2004," and Broken Arrow's Homeowners and Neighborhood associations are being urged to participate if at all possible.

Lisa Ford, the BAPD's Crime Prevention Specialist, will be one of the speakers at the conference, which will be held at the Oklahoma City Metro Technology Center. The program will bring together members of Neighborhood Watch Associations, city staff members, non-profit organizations and members of law enforcement agencies from throughout Oklahoma. They will interact and share workshop training, passing along "what works" and what doesn't.

Also included will be an awards program which will honor neighborhood volunteers in the "Oklahoma Neighborhood Hall of Fame," a Neighborhood Partnership Award, Neighborhood Improvement Award, Neighborhood Newsletter Award and Youth in Neighborhood Award. Nominations for those awards, as well as a registration form for the conference, are available through the City's web site: [www.brokenarrowok.gov](http://www.brokenarrowok.gov).

The Stone Mill Homeowners Association, working with Ford and the American Red Cross Safe Neighborhood Network, recently came back from Florida with an honorable mention award for its entry in the Neighborhood USA's conference competition for Neighborhood of the Year – one of only eight finalists from the United States.

That association, says Pat Connors of the group, has now entered the Oklahoma Awards Conference.

## **Speaking of Neighborhoods...**

If you'd like a police officer or fire truck at your neighborhood program for "National Night Out" on Aug. 3?

The City of Broken Arrow is once again doing all it can to promote this national event which puts the focus on fighting crime by getting neighbors to work together. Lisa Ford, Crime Prevention Specialist for the BAPD, points out that she is available for help in planning neighborhood programs. She can be reached by phone at 451-8213.

Across American, citizens are being urged on that night to turn outside lights on around their homes, come outside and meet their neighbors and create some special events that will bring families together.

To help make all that happen, the BAPD and BAFD will work with neighborhood associations to get officers, fire trucks, McGruff the crime fighting dog and more to the events. Ford said that previous Nights Out have featured coloring contests, games and food.

The National Night Out is billed as a "goodbye party" for crime and drugs. Then, on Oct. 30, the BAPD will work with the Main Street Merchants in a "Night Out Against Crime with Fun and Games on Main."

## **BA Seniors Goes 'High-Tech'**

Broken Arrow Seniors, Inc., has joined the World Wide Web family, going on line with its web site this weekend. BASI, which operates out of The Main Place, a City of Broken Arrow facility, has a "mini-site" linked through the City's site.

Provided by the City, there are separate pages for BASI, the BA Historical Society, BA Genealogical Society and Broken Arrow Neighbors. The Genealogical Society now has its own web site as well.

BASI Executive Director Kathy Guthrie explained that the new web site would provide more complete information on programs for the senior citizens, as well as an on-line copy of the Silver Notes newsletter and the meal menus for each month. There is information on transportation services available and some of the feature activities, as well.

BA Seniors, Inc., has been reaching out to the community since 1988 when it was incorporated and then worked out an agreement with the City to use the Main Place at 1800 S. Main.

The sub-site may be accessed by going to the Home Page of the City's site ([www.brokenarrowok.gov](http://www.brokenarrowok.gov)) and looking for the BA Seniors link at the lower left corner, or going to the Quality of Life, City Partners section of the "Our Citizens" index page on the City site.

BASI is a United Way agency. Membership dues are \$12 per year, but those wishing to participate in activities at the Senior Center do not have to be members. City voters approved a bond issue four years ago that provided funding for an expansion of the BASI facility, resulting in Centennial Hall.

## **Summer Almost Over?**

There may be one more week of July, all of August and part of September left before we can say that summer has ended, but if you talk to Broken Arrow and Union school students you'll find that the end is closer than you think.

Classes at both school districts begin Aug. 12. That means traffic problems will increase (the start of school traditionally results in more collisions), school zones will once again go into effect, school buses will be doing their thing and City swimming pool crowds will dwindle.

Parks & Recreation Director Scott Esmond points out that in past years the City has adopted a special schedule for the pools once school began. No official announcement has yet been made, but it's expected that a shortened week will include only weekends from the time school begins until Labor Day weekend. Monday of Labor Day weekend is usually the final day for the pools to be open.

The City's Learn to Swim program finishes up next week (July 29) at the old Central Pool in Central Park. There were 946 youngsters who took those classes this summer, says Krystal Ridenour, registration coordinator.